so as to protect the foodgrains from rains.

(b) Nylon ropes are provided for proper lashing of polythene covers to prevent damages by blowing of covers during storms.

(c) Monofilament nets and cover tops are provided in major CAP Complexes for additional protection to grains from vagaries of weather.

(d) Aeration of stocks, stored in CAP and godowns is done regularly to maintain the health of the stocks and also to avoid damage by condensation on account of humidity and temperature variations.

(e) Stacks are built in dome shape so as to avoid any stagnation of water on the top.

(f) The stocks stored in CAP and godowns are subject to regular inspection and given treatment wherever required for control of insect infestation and infestation by other pests like rodents, brids etc.

(g) Movement of foodgrains from one place to another is done in covered wagons as far as possible. Wherever stocks are moved in open wagons the same are covered properly with tarpaulni to avoid damages in transit.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUGAR FACTORY IN GUJARAT

3330. SHRI ANATRAY DEVESHANKER DAVE :

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from Gujarat State for change of the location of establishment of a new Sugar factory;

(b) if so, at which stage the proposal is lying;

(c) by when the matter is likely to be finalised;

(d) how many proposals have been received from Gujarat for establishment of new sugar factories;

(e) what steps have been taken up by the Central Government; and

(f) when these proposals are likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has received six proposals for change of location of new sugar factories in Gujarat. In five cases, approvals have been granted and necessary amendments have also been made in the Letters of Intent. The required information in respect of the remaining one case has been received and is being processed.

(d) to (f) The Central Government has received 13 proposals for establishment of new sugar factories in Gujarat. Letters of Intent have been granted in two cases and the remaining 11 cases have been rejected.

IMPORT OF WHEAT

3331. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have stopped the import of wheat from foreign countries; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool maintained by the Government during the current year are very comfortable and it can well meet the requirement of Public Distribution System. Hence the question of importing wheat by the Government at present does not arise.